

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0032] with the following amended paragraph:

[0032] With reference to FIG. 10, in operation one of the CPUs 128 of the partition 116A forms a data packet that includes the source address of the packet and the destination address of the packet. The CPU 128 transmits the packet to the routing device 112. The routing device 112 receives the packet (STEP 1000). The routing device 112 reads the packet to determine the destination address (STEP 1010). A determination is made as to whether or not the destination address is configured to receive the packet (STEP 1020). In other words, the destination address is looked up in the routing table or bit mask 144 of the routing device 112 to determine if the destination address is part of the same partition 116 as the source address. The routing device 112 prohibits the transmission of the packet when the destination address is not allowed to receive the packet (STEP 1030). If the destination address is not found in the routing table ~~of route enable~~ or bit mask 144 the packet is not transmitted. The packet can be dropped by the routing device 112. Additionally, the routing device 112 can notify the source address that the packet was not transmitted to the destination address (STEP 1040). The notification can cause the source address to transition into an error state. The error state can result in the inoperability of the partition 116 that transmitted the packet. The source address can also generate a time out signal if the source address does not receive a notification from the destination address that the packet was received (STEP 1050). The partition 116 of the source address can transition into an error state after the time out signal has been generated. Once in an error state, the partition 116 can begin automatic error recovery or generate a notification that can be received by a system administrator and written to an error log.